The New-York Times.

VOL. VIII—NO. 2360. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1859. PRICE TWO CENTS.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE

Arrival of the City of Baltimore.

THE CONGRESS TO SIT AT BADEN

Preparations for War Unrelaxed.

A New Circular from the Sardinian Government.

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS IN PARLIAMENT.

Close of the Debate on Lord John Russell's Amendment.

Cotton Unchanged—Breadstuffs Dull—Consols 93 7-8.

The screw steamship *City of Baltimore*, Capt. Lott, which sailed from Liverpool, at 9:00 on the morning of the 30th March, arrived here yesterday morning.

The screw steamship *Lebanon*, of the same line, from Liverpool March 26, also arrived yesterday.

An outline of the intelligence she brings was given in a portion of our morning issue of yesterday.

The Cunard screw steamer *Jura*, from New-York, arrived out at Liverpool at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 29th ultimo, and the *Europa* reached Liverpool at 9 o'clock on the evening of the 29th.

A Paris telegram says: "After several proposals, it appears that Baden has been fixed upon for the coming Congress, and that it will meet about the 1st of May. It will be attended by five Cabinet Ministers—Manteuffel, representing England; Walewski, France; Gortschakoff, Russia; Rust, Austria, and Schleinitz, Prussia. The Italian States will also be indirectly represented at the Congress. M. Azeglio (Sardinian Minister to England) has arrived here to meet Count Cavour. It is not impossible that they may complicate the negotiations, and their visit to this capital is not viewed with pleasure by the votaries of peace."

The Paris *Presse* says that facts justify the assertion that it is the mission of Lord Cowley to Vienna which has rendered the Congress possible.

The English Government is said to have given its consent to the admission of Sardinia to the Congress.

According to some authorities, the Congress will meet between the 15th and 20th of April.

It is said that Lord Cowley will assist the Earl of Malmesbury, and that M. Drouyn de l'Huys will act as second Commissioner to Count Walewski.

The Vienna correspondent of the London *Times* says that, although Austria has promised to attend the Congress, she is not inclined to think peace will be established, and, consequently, continues her armaments.

Le Nord says that Count Cavour's note to the five Powers, claiming the admission of Piedmont to the Congress, points out that, in associating themselves with the policy of Piedmont, they would assure at once the triumph of nationality and order in Italy. By excluding Piedmont, they would abandon the fate of Italy to revolutionary influences.

The latest reports were that, while Piedmont will have a seat in the Congress, she will not have a vote; and that, on the same conditions, other Italian States will be heard.

The Liverpool papers state that, owing to the American act of Congress, which requires that whenever an American steamer is sailing she shall have the mails in preference to a British one,—and Commodore Vanderbilt having advertised his steamers to Southampton on the days that the mails ought to come to Liverpool, the *City of Baltimore* will probably be deprived of the homeward mail from New-York of the 23d April; and, under these circumstances, she will sail at Queenstown, on the homeward voyage, to land letters and passengers only; and the succeeding steamers of this Company will make Queenstown a port of call, where the detention will not exceed two or three hours. This Company's steamer *City of Manchester* will leave Liverpool on Friday, 2d of April, to land at Boston, which port she will leave on the 9th, calling at Queenstown, whence she will sail finally, on the 11th, for New-York direct. Ireland will thus have the benefit of having the legitimate trade with North America amply provided for.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In the House of Commons, on the 29th ult., Mr. Sergt. Shee said that in consequence of the explicit statement of the Attorney-General for Ireland, that Government would consider the question of the second reading of the Reform bill as equivalent to a vote of censure, he should withdraw the resolution to that effect, of which he had given notice.

Mr. Cowan asked whether it was intended to incur the expense of a third mail to America, in addition to the two *mail services, for which a sum of £176,000* was included in the packet estimates before a vote for this purpose could be submitted in Committee of Supply.

Mr. Disraeli said that the contract was before the Admiralty, but it was not yet completed. It was not necessary to take an additional vote for the purpose.

The debate on the Reform bill was resumed, the principal speakers against it being Mr. Edwin James, Messrs. Mowbray and Sir James Graham, while those in favor of it were Lord Elcho, Lord A. Vane Tempest and Sir John Pakington. The latter objected to the unconciliatory tone assumed by Lord Palmerston, and declared that Government would hold itself staked on the issue of the debate.

On Tuesday, the 29th, the proceedings in the House of Lords were uninteresting, and in the House of Commons the debate upon the Reform bill was continued. Mr. Gladstone was the principal speaker of the evening, and he took ground against Sir John Russell's resolution.

The debate was adjourned till Thursday, the 31st, when, at the suggestion of Mr. Disraeli, a vote would be taken.

The London journals were speculating on the course Ministers would pursue in the event of the passage of Lord John Russell's amendment. The Liberal journals took it for granted that they would resign, and were allotting offices to their anticipated successors. According to the *Morning Star*, Lord John Russell will make up a Cabinet independent of Lord Palmerston and those who acted with him while in office.

Each of the morning papers devoted a leading article to the speech of Mr. Gladstone.

The *Times* says that he condemns the Government bill for everything, in which it pretends to offer a reform, and the only redeeming feature he finds in it, is the retention of all existing Boroughs. The pretence is, that small constituencies are better than large ones.

That is really the argument, though Mr. Gladstone cannot quite screw up his courage to state it so broadly.

The *Times* refers to a host of small Boroughs to prove that they do not possess the virtues ascribed to them.

The *Star* says, the Government have obtained in Mr. Gladstone a powerful but unserviceable ally.

The *Daily News* points out the inconsistency of Mr. Gladstone's abandoning and accepting what he condemns. He regrets Lord Russell's resolution and will vote for the bill.

The remains of Joan Baxter, the great physiologist, had been reinterred at Westminster Abbey with appropriate solemnities.

A deputation had waited upon Sir John Pakington, at the Admiralty, on the subject of the Honduras Interoceanic Railway. It was stated that a substantial contractor had tendered to construct the railway for £3,000,000 sterling, granting its construction, to put through a settlement road for the carriage of the mails within twelve months from the present time. The great advantages of the route were largely dwelt upon.

It was stated, a few weeks ago, that Mr. Sumpter had decided to visit America, lest in the public mind he should be connected with the personal, financial and political schemes of individuals who had sought to use him for their own purposes. The number of passengers to be protected was to be very limited, and the sum to be charged for admission was to be £100 each person, so that the security of the Government against the money to be paid willingly to have him. Mr. Sumpter's friends intimated that it was purely a question of money out of his own pocket, and declined to receive the sums raised. The London papers now have a fresh rumor, namely, that a committee of well known mercantile gentlemen of various denominations in New-York had been forwarded to Mr. Sumpter, urging him to consider his decision, and strengthening him against the petty annoyances to which he refers. Reliable arrangements have been made by the American Congregational Union to give him a cordial welcome at the meeting which they will hold on the 12th of May. Should Mr. Sumpter decide on a transatlantic trip, it will probably take place during the coming Summer, since he is to lay the foundation stone of his new Tabernacle in May. One year will be required to complete it. It is, therefore, very possible he will not be able to leave in time to attend the American Congregational Union.

A dispatch dated at Waterford, March 30, says the Marquis of Waterford was killed last evening while hunting.

The death of Countess of Rosse was announced.

The report of the day has arrived from China, announcing the, of the.

It stated in the *Paris Ariel* City article that

FRANCE.

As will be seen by the latest news by the *Canada*, Count Cavour arrived at Paris on the morning of the 28th, and had an interview with the Emperor at noon the same day. He was also present at a private dinner given by the Emperor at the Tuileries on Monday the 28th. He was reported to be much pleased with his visit.

It was asserted that the Conferences respecting the Danubian Principalities would reassemble in Paris in the course of the then current week. Two sittings only were expected to be held, all the Powers having agreed to recognize the double election of Couza.

The announcement of the Congress on the Affairs of Italy had not produced any improvement in the general trade of France.

It had been arranged by the War Department that all the *materiel* lately prepared, such as artillery, projectiles, clothing and tents, should be dispatched to Lyons and Marseilles, where stores had been prepared for them.

The Paris *Flour* market was firm, and Wheat was without essential change. Wines were quiet but steady. Brandies dull.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* asserts that armaments were going on in France without relaxation.

The Paris *Patrie* states that Government had decided upon adding a fourth battalion to each of the hundred infantry regiments of the line. The new battalions are to be formed out of the third and sixth companies of the already existing battalions.

The Paris Bourse on Saturday the 26th, was dull and drooping, the Rentes declining to 68f. 70c. On Monday, the 28th, the depression was still greater, owing to disquieting rumors, and the quotations declined to 68f. 35c. On the 29th, the Bourse opened at a further decline of more than a quarter, but a slight improvement subsequently took place, and the 3 per cents closed at 68.10 for money and 68.5 for account.

Count Cavour was expected to leave Paris for Turin direct on the 30th.

The Viceroy of Egypt had rejected the written application of M. de Lesseps for permission to commence the work of the Suez Canal, and M. Linant-Bey, the Engineer-in-chief, had tendered his resignation.

The *Herald* speaks of the probability of a loan of £8,000,000 to cover a deficiency to that amount, and that the resources of the Bank of France having been already resorted to, it will be necessary to apply elsewhere.

The *Herald* adds that the circumstance that a variety of loan transactions may be concluded if hostilities shall be prevented, induces capitalists to exercise greater reserve than would otherwise be the case.

SARDINIA.

Turin letters state that the projected Congress had proved a grievous shock to the war party. Orders for preparing certain large buildings for the reception of troops had been countermanded.

A dispatch from Count Cavour to the Sardinian Ambassador at London, dated March 17th, is published. It is in reply to a question which the British Government had asked, viz.: Whether Sardinia would follow the example of Austria and declare in a formal manner that she has no intention of attacking her powerful neighbors? Count Cavour in his reply criticises the menacing attitude of Austria and says: "So long as our neighbors group round them and against us all the States of Italy which border on us, and whilst they can freely march their troops on the banks of the Po and up to the Apennines; so long as they can hold Piacenza (transformed into a fortress of the first order) continually threatening our frontier, it will be impossible for us to remain defenceless in the face of the provoking and armed attitude of Austria."

AUSTRIA.

It is computed that by the end of March, Austria would have in Lombardy 70 battalions of Infantry; and with artillery, cavalry and engineers the army in Italy would be about 220,000 strong.

The London *Daily News* is informed that the conditions on which Austria has consented to a Congress are of a most insufficient character.

Letters from Piacenza announce that between the *23d and 29th of March, 1,200 Austrians, with 50 cannons*, 150 barrels of resin and a great quantity of con*greve rockets arrived there. The church* was converted into a flour magazine.

Warlike preparations were going actively forward in other parts of Italy.

A rumor was in circulation in Paris on the 28th (but it had not been confirmed,) that a collision had taken place in Lombardy between an Austrian detachment and some recruits who wished to escape the service. It is said that one man was killed and several wounded in the *mêlée*.

GERMANY.

It is officially announced that the Federal Assembly has voted supplies for arming the Federal fortresses with the necessary artillery. Prince Paskiewicz of Wurtemburg is said to have been appointed commander-in-chief of the 9th federal *corps d'armée*.

RUSSIA.

A St. Petersburg letter states that the budget of 1860 had been presented to the Emperor by the Minister of Finance, and approved of by his Majesty without modification. The receipts, it is stated, exceed the expenses by 20¼ millions of roubles.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The mails from Calcutta of Feb. 23, and Hong Kong Feb. 15, arrived at Alexandria on the 21st of March.

There is nothing of political importance from India. At Calcutta imports were declining, and Manchester goods were very dull. Produce generally was steady, but quiet. Freights dull and drooping. Exchange on London, 2s. 1¾d.@2s. 1¾d. Money was abundant for commercial purposes. On the publication of the Government financial statement on the 21st of February, the 5 ₱ cents, which had previously fallen to 5, rose to 7 ₱ cent. discount.

Exchange at Madras on the 1st of March, 2s. ¼d.@2s. 1¾d.

Lord Elgin had left Canton and was preparing an expedition for the exploration of the Pearl River.

Admiral Seymour was about to return to England.

Exchange at Hong Kong had advanced to 4s. 7d. for Bank bills. Freights were flat.

At Canton, exports were quiet. Manufactured articles in better demand.

At Shanghae, on the 7th of February, imports were firm and stocks light. Tea continued firm and tending upward. Silk also rising. Exchange, 4s. 1d.@4s. 2d., closing less firm. Freights to London, 41 10s. for tea, and £3 10s. for silk.

The Government telegram from India states that tranquillity continued to prevail throughout Oude, and the disarming of the province progressed rapidly. Up to Feb. 12, 376 cannon and 975,000 arms of all kinds had been collected, while 756 forts had been entirely leveled. The Begum and the Nana were still in the Nepaulitaral.

The rebels in Central India under Tantia Topee, were reported to be making for Pertabghur.

AUSTRALIA.

The Melbourne mails of Feb. 4 reached England on the 30th of March. The details add nothing of importance to the news already telegraphed.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Cape of Good Hope mails from Table Bay down to Feb. 21 had reached England.

Commerce at the Cape was prosperous.

Provisions were in good demand.

Peace had been maintained along the frontier.

Commercial Intelligence.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

The latest accounts by the *Canada* reported a considerable decline in Consols under the influence of the unfavorable aspect of Indian finance and the prospect of the £7,000,000 loan being increased to ten or twelve millions.

The depression continued on Monday, the 28th—Consols fluctuating at about 93¼@¾.

On Tuesday, the 29th, the market was slightly firmer, but without any advance, the closing quotations being 93⅝@93⅞ for money and 93⅛ for account.

The demand for Money was moderate. Few bills were discounted below the Bank minimum.

The rate of discount at Hamburg had advanced to 4 per cent.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

The market was *quiet and without material alteration.* The sales on the 28th comprised:

Illinois Central shares at	89 dis.
Michigan Central Sinking Fund	80¾ ex d.
New-York Central shares closed at	73@73½
Erie shares	19@19½

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

LIVERPOOL, Wednesday, March 30.

COTTON—The demand moderate at the departure of the *Canada* was well maintained on Monday, the 28th, but yesterday, Tuesday, the market was less animated, and closed quietly, but without any change in the quotations. The business of the three days amounted to about 28,000 bales, including some 5,000 on speculation and 4,000 for export. Messrs. Wm. Clark & Sons quote Middling Orleans at 7¾d., and Middling Uplands at 7 1-16d.@7¼d. The market is freely supplied at the quotations.

At Manchester, trade is quiet, and without material change for Yarns, but goods are, in some cases, rather lower, particularly for India descriptions. A moderate business was done in Yarns for the Continent, at firm prices.

BREADSTUFFS—Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co. report a dull market for all articles. Flour neglected, although the terms easier to buy. The quotations range from 19s. @19s. 3d. Wheat sells only in retail, at previous prices. Western Red, 8s. 9d.@8s. 4d.; White, 8s. 7d.@10s.; Southern, 10s. @10s. 9d. Corn dull, and 1d. @ central cheaper for Yellow, which is quoted at 5s. 9d.@5s. 11d.; White quiet, but steady, 7s. 2d.@7s. 5d.

PROVISIONS—Beef steady but business restricted to retail sales. Pork dull and nominal. Bacon inactive. Small sales of Cumberland cut at 40s. Lard dull and quotations quite nominal. Tallow quiet at 54s. for Butchers' Association.

PRODUCE—Resin quiet at 4s. 6d.@4s. 7d. for common, medium and fine neglected. Bark without change. Cloverseed had been offered at auction but withdrawn, there being no bids above 56s. 6d.@59s. for new American. Sugar rather more active but rates unchanged. Coffee firm. Rice steady. Ashes steady: sales of Pots at 30s. and Pearls at 31s. 6d. Spirits of Turpentine in moderate demand at 41s.@41s. 6d.

LONDON MARKETS.

BREADSTUFFS dull and prices of Wheat barely supported. Sugars steady and in fair demand. Coffee bought readily at firm prices. Tea quiet at unchanged rates. Rice quiet. Tallow in limited request at 53s. for P. Y. C. Linseed Oil, 29s. Scotch Pig Iron steady at 53s.

THE VERY LATEST.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

LONDON, Wednesday, March 30.

The Daily *News*, in its City Article of Tuesday evening, says: "Great inactivity prevailed in the Stock Exchange, but notwithstanding the continued decline on the Paris Bourse, the prices of nearly all securities were well supported.

Consols left off about ¼ ₱ cent. higher than yesterday.

About £32,000 in bar gold was this day taken from the Bank for exportation to the Continent, in payment for silver, the import of which continues on an extraordinary active scale.

Since Saturday upwards of £350,000 worth is known to have reached the Thames from Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg. Notwithstanding these large imports the Continental Exchanges this afternoon presented in several instances a partial recovery.

The principal improvement was in bills on Hamburg and Belgium.

The *Copenhagen*, at sea 94 days, and the *Water Nymph* and *Royal Bride*, each 86 days, have on freight £236,000 in gold from Melbourne. The £76,000 in gold, brought by the Australian Mail to Suez, is *expected on Thursday.*

The *Times'* City Article of the same evening says: *The English Funds opened without alteration*, and have subsequently shown steadiness.

The £350,000 Consols, purchased on account of the Court of Chancery, having to-day been paid for the *supply of money was thus rendered abundant.*

The fall on the Paris Bourse, which has now been uninterrupted for several days, would tend in a much greater degree to revive political distrust, but for a surmise that many of the sales effected, may be in anticipation of an early loan.

It is stated that the capital of the New Credit Mobilier, in process of concoction under the auspices of Count de Morny, will be £1,000,000, in 80,000 shares of £20 each.

The heavy portion of the Australian mail is expected to reach Southampton on Thursday.

The India and China mails arrived in London at 5 o'clock this morning, and were dispatched to Liverpool and Manchester by early train.

The Italian Question in Parliament—Interesting Explanation.

In the House of Lords on the 27th, Lord Clarendon said: I wish to ask the noble Lord, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, whether he will feel it to be inconsistent with his duty to give the House, and through the House the country, some information as to the present state of affairs in Europe, and of the results of Lord Cowley's mission? I have not given any notice of my intention on the paper, as I have determined not to make any lengthened remarks on this *important subject. I by no means desire that my noble* friend should make any communication that would be prejudicial to the cause of peace, which we all have at heart; (hear, hear,) but my noble friend must be aware of the great anxiety which exists in this *country upon the subject, an anxiety which is in*creased by the continual rumors in the daily press. My noble friend must be aware that now for nearly the space of three months, in consequence of the differences between France and Austria, great loss and injury have been sustained; that commercial transactions have been interrupted, and that confidence abroad has been entirely destroyed. There are people who would almost prefer the most certainty to the continuance of this paralyzing uncertainty. My lords, it is idle to suppose that war has not been seriously contemplated, (hear, hear,) and it would be still more idle to suppose that war, once commenced, could be restricted in any particular country or any prescribed limits. It would be contrary to all their past experience if the neighboring nations remained pacific or indifferent in the event of a war between France and Austria. Against such a war, or I would rather say against such an unprovoked European convulsion, the public opinion of Europe has been expressed with an unanimity which I believe to be unprecedented. England, neutral and eminently pacific in her policy, in close and friendly alliance with France and Austria, sincerely desirous that all practical remedies may be applied to the existing state of things, has been in a position to render service to all parties during the crisis, and I am willing to believe that Her Majesty's Government have to the best of their ability rendered that service. I was glad to hear of Lord Cowley's mission to Vienna, because I was sure that he would not have been sent there by Her Majesty's Government, and that he himself would not have undertaken the mission, unless there appeared a fair prospect of success; and I was sure that whatever could be effected by sagacity, tact, and judgment, would be accomplished by Lord Cowley. I do not pretend to be better informed than other people with respect to the mission of Lord Cowley, but, like all others who read the newspapers, I cannot pretend to be ignorant of it. In every part of the world in which business of importance is transacted, able men are indefatigable in collecting facts and reporting them to the English newspapers. From these reports I have no doubt that Lord Cowley had no full powers, that he was not charged with any negotiation, but was to hold at Vienna precisely the same language as at Paris, to ascertain what were in fact the differences between France and Austria, and endeavor as far as possible, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to reconcile those differences and bring about a satisfactory settlement. If I am right in this conjecture, I think that those instructions to Lord Cowley were sufficient, and that Her Majesty's Government acted wisely in not committing themselves to any distinct proposal, and thereby imperiling their position of usefulness. I will not ask Lord Cowley, because any noble friend will bear in mind that the time is really too early, I know nothing of Lord Cowley's mission, except from the public papers, the fact that he was on the road to Vienna, made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer some weeks ago in answer to a speech of Lord Palmerston. It is possible that my noble friend will say, now think it necessary to maintain the same reserve as was maintained at that time by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The friendly object of Lord Cowley's mission appears to have been fully appreciated, and he is believed to have brought back assurances which are important and satisfactory. The Emperor of Austria, I believe, has expressed his earnest desire to come to a friendly understanding with France upon all existing differences between them. He has professed his willingness to withdraw the Austrian army from the Pope's territories at the same time with the French army. He has declared that he does not intend, and never has intended, to invade Piedmont; and further, that he is prepared, not only in conjunction with France, but with the European Powers, to make such representations to Rome as may lead to a better government of the Pope's territories. Now, if Lord Cowley was enabled to make these communications, I think it is important that the fact should be confirmed by my noble friend, because it is impossible that such assurances could not have been met in a corresponding spirit by the Emperor of the French. The reason and humanity of the French Emperor, and his deference to the well established opinion and unanimous wishes of the French people, forbid that we should come to any other conclusion. If Austria has agreed to a Congress, we may infer that she is prepared to make some concessions to the public opinion of Europe. In her present condition, with her vast military preparations, and relying as she does on the spirit and patriotism of Germany, she can well afford to do so without the slightest taint upon her honor or the smallest danger to her interests. (Cheers.) Then, my lords, I think we may feel confident that the peace of Europe will not be disturbed, because every shadow of a pretext for war will then have been removed. I do not think it necessary to say any more at the present time. I purposely avoid allowing to the question which have to be brought before the Congress as to that occasion *of military preparations and possible disarmament* which ought to be a preliminary to the meeting of the Congress, and I will not anticipate the answer to any precise question to my noble friend, because I have understood that so is desirous of allaying anxiety by stating to this House such information as his sense of public duty will permit him to give respecting Lord Cowley's mission. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of Malmesbury—My lords, I must begin by thanking my noble friend for the speech we have just heard, and for asking for that information which your lordships must be eager to obtain. I am perfectly ready to give as much of that information as I can without trenching upon those questions which may, perhaps, better be avoided at the present moment, and which it would be inexpedient to urge at the present conjuncture. Your lordships will recollect that at the end of last month Lord Cowley went to Vienna. Before he left Paris he *obtained the entire assent and approbation of the French Government to his mission*, and he left Paris perfectly satisfied with the views and views of the French Government with respect to what is called the Italian question. He came to London, but he did not receive any official instructions whatever. [The Earl of Derby here said something to the noble earl, which did not reach the gallery. The noble earl having made a short pause, then proceeded:] He arrived in London and received from Her Majesty's Government, as my noble friend very properly anticipated, no instructions of an official character. *He was only to ascertain from the Austrian Government what* passes they *entertained to the same light as the French*, and in what *way he might, by the good offices of this country, assist in restoring those relations between France and Austria which were unfortunately in so critical a position.* He proceeded to Vienna, and there acted with all that sagacity and tact which my noble friend has so justly ascribed to him, and which Lord Cowley has never failed to manifest in any public mission on which he has been employed. [Hear, hear.] He was received by the Austrian Government with the utmost frankness and cordiality, and that frankness and cordiality pervaded all the communications which he had with that Government during his residence at Vienna. My lords, he there did ascertain that there were points on which, by the good offices of England, the French and Austrian Governments *might be induced to agree*, and that there were points on which Count Rechberg declared himself ready to enter into communication with Her Majesty's Governments, and with that of France, with the view of removing those dangers which threatened Italy and Europe and of restoring the certainty of peace. Having thus accomplished what I must describe as a very useful mission, Lord Cowley returned to Paris. On his arrival there on the 16th of this month he found that, during his absence, the French and Russian Governments had entered into communication with each other, and that, *with the consent and approbation of France, Russia intended to recommend to the five great Powers of Europe a Congress to consider and settle these matters.* On the 19th of this month Her Majesty's Government received from the Russian Ambassador official information that such was the intention of Russia, and Her Majesty's Government, on the next day, announced to the Russian Government at St. Petersburg their willingness, if such offer were made, to accept it, upon certain conditions, which were enumerated to the Russian Government. They therefore anticipated the official proposal which the Russian Government has since made. On the 23d Baron Brunow called upon me to announce that not only had the Russian Government made this proposal as between the five great Powers, but that the Russian Government had also accepted the conditions submitted by Her Majesty's Government. Since that time each of the five great Powers has consented to the Congress. But, although they are entirely agreed on the fact that there should be a Congress to discuss the affairs of Italy, and to accomplish a solution of the present critical complications, *they are not yet agreed on the details of the subject and the composition of the Congress.* Speaking, however, upon the information which I at present possess, I entertain no doubt that, in a short time, a perfect understanding will be come to on the matter. (Hear, hear.) I do not scruple to say that Her Majesty's Government are *of opinion, considering that the subjects which are* about to be discussed in that Congress are intimately *connected with the political and social happiness of the Italian people*, that those States of Italy should, one and all, have an opportunity given to them of expressing their opinion, in some way or other, upon the subjects which will there be discussed. Our object will naturally be, *not to impose*—either upon the question of reform or on any other point—any conditions upon the Italian States and people, but to recommend to them what we consider for their own benefit and for the safety of Europe. It may be some source of satisfaction to your lordships to know that, though the disarmament, which I should heartily wish to see take place immediately as preliminary to the Congress, is not yet decided on, yet that both Austria and Piedmont have formally made a declaration that they will not attack one another, and that they will refrain from hostilities. Therefore, unless some untoward and almost impossible accident should occur, we may hope that peace will not be broken, and that the Congress, which will probably assemble at the end of next month, will eventuate in those results which your lordships and all Europe desire. [Cheers.]

THE BIRTHDAY OF HENRY CLAY.

Dinner of the Clay Festival Association.

The Clay Festival Association last evening celebrated the eighty-first anniversary of the birth of Henry Clay by a dinner at the La Farge House. At a seasonable hour the invited guests had repaired to the dining-hall of the hotel. At the table at the head of the room, behind which American flags were draped *about the banner of the Association, were seated Mr.* N. P. Beers, President of the Association, Henry *Grinnell, Dr. John W. Francis*, the Rev. Matthew Hale Smith, the Hon. Thomas H. Bond, the Hon. Erastus Brooks, and the Rev. Mr. Hague, of Albany.

On the tables were two busts of Henry Clay, one in bronze and one in Parian marble, and temples of liberty in sugar. The dinner, which reflected great honor upon Mr. Wheeler, the proprietor of the hotel, was dispatched in less time than is usually devoted to the gastronomical on such occasions, and the cloth was removed. Then Messrs. Nash, Colburn, Bolton, and Cusack sang a song with piano-forte accompaniment, which was loudly applauded.

The President, Mr. Beers, then arose, and said that for fourteen years the members of this Association had been in the habit of coming together on the anniversary of Henry Clay's birthday. For seven years during his life, and for seven years since his death, they had assembled. They had failed to see his virtues acknowledged by those who had before denied that he possessed them. Allegiance to principle was the characteristic of Henry Clay. In these days of party strife it was pleasing to recur to the principles and utterances of the patriot. Mr. Beers alluded to the death of two members of the Association during the past year, Jas. N. Reynolds and Thos. P. Harrison. It was their consolation, he said, when Henry Clay and those who supported him were removed from their midst that the principles of the departed still remained to them.

Mr. Beers read letters from the Hon. Washington Hunt, Thomas H. Clay, the Hon. Wm. A Graham, Edward Joy Morris, Hiram Ketchum and the Hon. D. D. Barnard, expressing their regret at their inability to be present.

The first regular toast was

The 12th of April, 1777—The birthday of Henry Clay, memorable as the day when a bounteous Providence loaned to the Republic, for the benefit of mankind, a mighty Intellect, a Patriotic Soul and an Honest Heart.

Mr. Wm. G. Mitchell sung a song, composed by himself, entitled "The Natal Day Song," and then the Rev. Matthew Hale Smith delivered an address on the happiness which he experienced in speaking of Henry Clay, and eulogized the departed statesman. He praised his conservatism, and proposed as a sentiment, "Lexington and Ashland, where lies a man who was in the public service for fifty years, and never deserved his countrymen." [Loud applause.]

The second regular toast, to the political principles of Henry Clay, was followed by a song by Mr. Colburn, entitled "When the Trump of Fame."

The Hon. Thos. H. Bond next addressed the assemblage. He said it afforded him great gratification to worship with the members of the Association around the old hallowed shrine of Henry Clay. It carried him back to the days when Henry Clay led them on to the battle of political life. The men who had acted with him had passed away; but such men never die. Years and adversity of Clay's brethren upon the mountains. Some voted with the Republican Party, some with the Democratic Party, and some did not vote at all. Daniel Webster, when he stood outside the lines of party lines said that he would vote with that party which should labor to secure the perpetuity of the Union. Mr. Bond urged that party should labor to perpetuate that same spirit of Henry Clay, and preserve liberty and union, peace and harmony, and walk back to the days of boyhood, proving such relations from infancy to the present time. The length of time, instead of weakening, strengthens the argument that he was not killed with malice. We are called upon to give the order of time. This is but one link of the chain of circumstances to show the friendship which existed between the parties prior to the date of the tragedy, and which continued down to within a few days of the commission of the act.

The Court said the object of the defence was to show the relations of the parties to each other. The law, undoubtedly, is, that when a man is on trial for murder, previous expressions of good will and acts of kindness towards the deceased may be proved. On this ground the Court understood these letters to be offered. The one he had read was simply courteous, and had no bearing on the issue. The letters are not evidence.

Mr. Brady took an exception to this ruling, and then to a ruling which excluded Mr. Key's letters, apart from the inclosures.

The following are the letters:

MR. KEY TO MR. SICKLES.

WASHINGTON, 30th inst., 1859.

The Hon. D. E. Sickles—*My Dear Sir*: I send by Josiah Hoover a copy of a correspondence had to-day, and you will perceive my object, to fit the ridiculous and disgusting charges we are the parties concerned was unsuccessful. Respectfully as a truly yours,

PHIL. BARTON KEY.

The following are the copies of the letters referred to:

MR. KEY TO MR. WOOLDRIDGE.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1859.

George P. Wooldridge, Esq.—*Sir*: Will you please state, in writing, what communication you made to the Hon. Josiah D. Hoover, to-day, and oblige yours truly, by putting such communication in writing. By obliging me you will oblige

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

PHIL. BARTON KEY.

P. S. Rev. Mr.—*Dear Sir*: Marshal J. Bacon informed

THE SICKLES TRAGEDY.

Trial of Daniel E. Sickles for the Murder of Philip Barton Key.

EIGHTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Continuation of the Evidence for the Defence.

PAINFUL SCENE IN THE COURT-ROOM.

The Confession of Mrs. Sickles Offered in Evidence.

Testimony of John J. McElhone, Jonah D. Hoover, John H. Goddard, the Rev. Smith Pyne, the Hon. Robert J. Walker and Others.

[*Conclusion of Monday's proceedings.*]

After the recess, Mr. Brady said: We want you to admit the handwriting of Mr. Key to some papers.

Mr. Ould and Mr. Carlisle having examined them, admitted the handwriting.

Mr. Brady remarked that the first is directed by Mr. Key to Mr. Sickles, inclosing certain other communications addressed to various parties—one to Mr. Wooldridge, and his reply; one to Marshall J. Bacon, and his reply; one from Mr. Key to Mr. Beckman, and his reply, all in the handwriting of Mr. Key, and all except the first purporting to be copies of other letters. The date of nearly all of them is the 29th of March, 1859. The first letter from Mr. Key to Mr. Sickles says: "Send by Jonah D. Hoover the correspondence had to-day" &c.—alluding to certain matters, portions of which have been detailed to-day in the expected evidence of the defence. The objection is, that this correspondence at present seems to be in no manner connected with the issue the Court and Jury are now trying. Besides, the note from Mr. Key to Mr. Sickles is dated a year ago, and as it must relate to transactions before the Jury, it must be excluded, in point of time, from the *res gestæ*. Another objection is, that it shows no relation, direct or indirect, to the matter before the Jury. I should like to hear, on what peculiar grounds this correspondence is to be offered in evidence.

Mr. Brady—I will state it. The learned District-Attorney, in assuming the case, told the Jury that the Government, speaking through him, could ascribe the act of Mr. Sickles, in killing Mr. Key, to no other impulse than remorseless revenge. He painted Mr. *Sickles as an assassin. There is no proof before the* Jury that Mr. Key and Mr. Sickles met each other before the time of that fatal occurrence. *The Jury* have nothing on their minds as to their former personal relations. The cause of their meeting and the relations and circumstances are left to each intelligence as the Jury must necessarily draw from them in *the absence of this testimony. We do not propose of*fering this testimony to prove the assumptions set on the part of Mr. Key, but to show the friendly relations between the deceased and the accused. The Attorney said in the case of Jarboe, that the declarations of the defendant in his own favor are admissible in murder, and only in murder, but we must be declarations of kind feeling, of acts of a friendly character, or such like, toward the deceased, prior to the commission of the crime with which he is charged. I understand this correspondence between the two gentlemen is of such a character as to show that their relations were of a friendly character, and that Mr. Key treated Mr. Sickles as his equal and friend at that day.

Mr. Ould—There is no communication on the face of the papers from Mr. Sickles to Mr. Key, no expression of either a friendly or a hostile feeling. There was only a note of Mr. Key to Mr. Sickles, in which their relations are not substantially touched on at all. There was nothing to show that their friendship continued through the year previous to the killing.

Mr. Brady replied, that showing the subsequent of this testimony on the same ground as was decided in the Jarboe case. The question is, was the testimony competent, and this being admitted, its value was to be determined by the jury when the prosecution showed Mr. Sickles with deliberate premeditation on Mr. Key in broad daylight. The law gives to the accused the right to prove the character of the deceased, and this being admitted, it is implied that malice which the law denominates the offence. The presumption may be contradicted, and one of the modes by which it may be done is to ascertain the relation which the parties bear to each other. This may be demonstrated by acts of friendship or correspondence. In the present case we propose to demonstrate it by the latter mode. The only question for the Court is the competency of such testimony, which may be set down in the balance, and its effect and weight for the Jury. As to point of time, we may trace back acts of friendship and intimacy, and run back to the days of boyhood, proving such relations from infancy to the present time. The length of time, instead of weakening, strengthens the argument that he was not killed with malice. We are called upon to give the order of time. This is but one link of the chain of circumstances to show the friendship which existed between the parties prior to the date of the tragedy, and which continued down to within a few days of the commission of the act.

The Court said the object of the defence was to show the relations of the parties to each other. The law, undoubtedly, is, that when a man is on trial for murder, previous expressions of good will and acts of kindness towards the deceased may be proved. On this ground the Court understood these letters to be offered. The one he had read was simply courteous, and had no bearing on the issue. The letters are not evidence.

Mr. Brady took an exception to this ruling, and then to a ruling which excluded Mr. Key's letters, apart from the inclosures.

The following are the letters:

MR. KEY TO MR. SICKLES.

WASHINGTON, 30th inst., 1859.

The Hon. D. E. Sickles—*My Dear Sir*: I send by Josiah Hoover a copy of a correspondence had to-day, and you will perceive my object, to fit the ridiculous and disgusting charges we are the parties concerned was unsuccessful. Respectfully as a truly yours,

PHIL. BARTON KEY.

The following are the copies of the letters referred to:

MR. KEY TO MR. WOOLDRIDGE.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1859.

George P. Wooldridge, Esq.—*Sir*: Will you please state, in writing, what communication you made to the Hon. Josiah D. Hoover, to-day, and oblige yours truly, by putting such communication in writing. By obliging me you will oblige

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

PHIL. BARTON KEY.

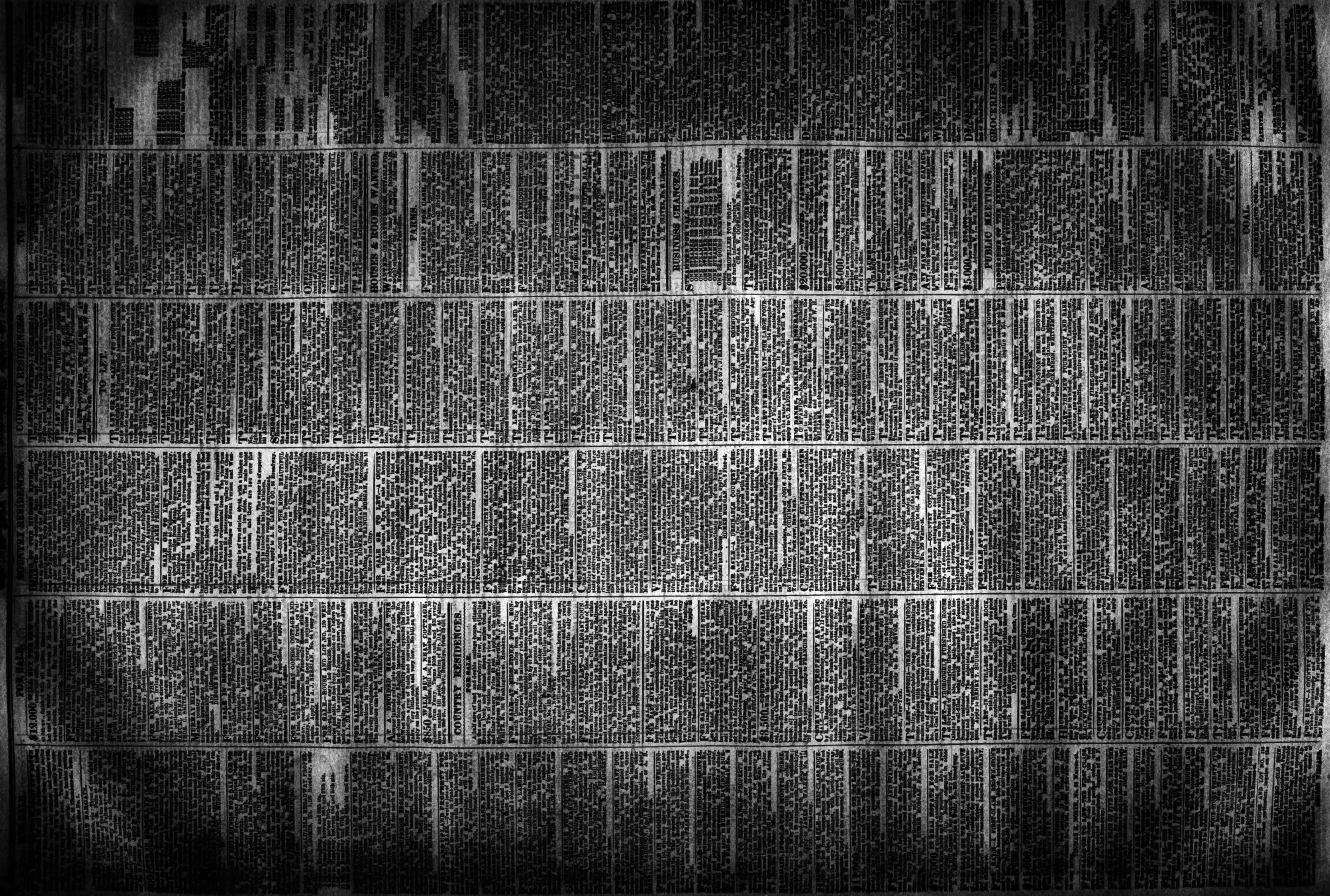
P. S. Rev. Mr.—*Dear Sir*: Marshal J. Bacon informed

[Continued on Eighth Page.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13,

NEWS OF THE DAY.

It is said that the arrival of the screw-steamship *City of Baltimore*, from Liverpool, on the 30th of March, was unnoticed. This news by late arrival is not very surprising, and won a Government schooner. It was the Metropolitan Police Force, and was commanded by Inspector Duff, who was assisted by Sergeant Mary Ann Wilson. The Police Force was composed of fifty men, and was divided into two companies, one of which was commanded by Sergeant Mary Ann Wilson, and the other by Sergeant Mary Ann Wilson. The Police Force was armed with clubs and pistols, and was provided with a number of handcuffs. The Police Force was also provided with a number of whistles, and was provided with a number of rattles. The Police Force was also provided with a number of lanterns, and was provided with a number of batons. The Police Force was also provided with a number of truncheons, and was provided with a number of staves. The Police Force was also provided with a number of swords, and was provided with a number of pistols. The Police Force was also provided with a number of muskets, and was provided with a number of rifles. The Police Force was also provided with a number of cannons, and was provided with a number of mortars. The Police Force was also provided with a number of howitzers



INSURANCE.

MERCHANTS' INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 187 Broadway, cor. Cedar st.

STATIONERY.

AGRICULTURAL.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

IRON AND HARDWARE.

FINANCIAL.

PROPOSALS.

LEGAL NOTICES.

MUSICAL.

STEAMBOATS.

SHIPPING

BAILROADS